

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 TRSE-00 /071 W

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R 281155Z MAR 77

FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6916

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

AMCONSUL ADANA

AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

AMCONSUL IZMIR

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

USMISSION NATO

CINCEUR

USDOCOSOUTH

USDOCOLANDSOUTHEAST

USNMR SHAPE

CINCUSNAVEUR

CINCUSAFE IN

CINCUSAFE INCF

HQ USEUCOM

CINCUSAREUR

COMSIXTHFLT

FOSIF ROTA

C O N F I D E N T I A L ANKARA 2232

E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PLOS, TU, GR

SUBJECT: AEGEAN DISPUTE

REF: ANKARA 2187 (DTG 250945Z MAR 77)

1. THE TURKISH PRESS CONTINUES TO KEEP ALIVE THE ALLEGATION

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THAT THE TURKISH SEISMIC SURVEY SHIP SISMİK WILL RESUME

OPERATIONS IN THE AEGEAN IN THE FIRST WEEK OF APRIL (REFTEL).

TERCUMAN FRONT-PAGED THIS "NEWS" MARCH 27. THE ARTICLE

QUOTED AN UNIDENTIFIED MFA OFFICIAL AS STATING THAT THE

ENTRY OF THE SISMİK INTO THE AEGEAN HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH

THE RESUMPTION OF GREEK-TURKISH CONTINENTAL SHELF TALKS, BUT

WAS IN ACCORDANCE WITH A PRE-ARRANGED RESEARCH PROGRAM.

2. MFA AEGEAN/LOS CHIEF TURMEN DISMISSED THE TERCUMAN ACCOUNT AS "RUBBISH" IN CONVERSATION WITH EMBOFF MARCH 28. TURMEN STATED THAT HIS PREVIOUS "OFFICIAL" STATEMENT (REFTEL) STILL APPLIED AND WAS THE RESULT OF DIRECT TALKS BETWEEN MFA SEC GEN ELEKDAG AND MINENERGY KILIC.

3. TURMEN ALSO INFORMED US THAT NO DATE HAD YET BEEN SET FOR PARIS CONTINENTAL SHELF TALKS, AS GOG WAS WAITING TO HEAR FROM THE GREEKS. EARLIER TURKISH SUGGESTIONS FOR DATES HAD BEEN TURNED DOWN BY GREECE, HE SAID. HE ALSO STATED THAT TURKISH AMB. TEZEL WOULD BE IN TOUCH WITH GREEK MFA SHORTLY TO SEE IF GOG HAD A DATE IN MIND.

4. TURKISH PRESS FOR MOST PART HAS PORTRAYED IN LOW-KEY FASHION TURKISH AEGEAN EXERCISE SEAWOLF-77. ONE EXCEPTION WAS MARCH 27 HURRIYET WHICH HEADLINED, "WE SPLIT THE AEGEAN" BY CROSSING THE SO-CALLED ATHENS-RHODES LINE. OTHER PAPERS REPORTED FROM ATHENS MARCH 27 THAT GOG WAS REFUSING TO SET DATE FOR PARIS TALKS AS RESULT OF SEAWOLF-77; MARCH 28 PAPERS CARRIED SUBSEQUENT GOG DENIAL. MACOMBER

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Message Attributes

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